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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/700,014	11/03/2003	Masakazu Nakamura	112857-459	3703

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EXAMINER	
DIXON, THOMAS A	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3628	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
06/22/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/700,014	NAKAMURA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Thomas A. Dixon	3628	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *13 April 2007*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *19,20,29-40 and 61-63* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *19,20,29-40 and 61-63* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. The amendment of 4/13/07 has been considered, independent claims 19, 29, and 40 have been amended, new claims 61-63 have been added. The argued feature has not been added to independent claim 36.

2. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 19-20, 29-40, 61-63 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Laval et al (6,173,209).

As per Claim 19.
Laval et al ('209) discloses: an electronic ticket information distribution store terminal for distributing electronic ticket information which authenticates a right to attend an event, see column 7, line 55 - column 8, line 2, wherein the electronic ticket information distribution store terminal receives a request to distribute an electronic ticket information concerning a plurality of electronic tickets the event from a user of an information storage chip, see , see column 2, lines 46-54, column 6, lines 33-39 and column 8, lines 11-16, transfers the request to an electronic ticket distribution authentication apparatus so as to instruct the electronic ticket distribution apparatus to perform distribution authentication processing for determining whether the electronic information is to be distributed to the user, see column 6, lines 33-46, receives a ticket issuing request from an electronic ticket platform center for managing the distribution of the electronic ticket information and writes the electronic ticket information for a plurality of electronic tickets onto the information storage chip, see column 2, lines 46-54 and column 8, lines 3-28.

As per Claim 20.
Laval et al ('209) further discloses output means is provided for outputting the electronic ticket information as a paper ticket, see column 8, lines 22-24.

As per Claim 29.
Laval et al ('209) discloses: forming event information unique to each of the events and registering the event information in the electronic ticket platform center by the event organizer apparatus, see column 16, lines 14-51;
receiving a request to distribute the electronic ticket information concerning a plurality of electronic tickets to the event from a user of the information storage chip, performing distribution authentication processing for determining whether the electronic ticket information is to be distributed to the user, and registering an authentication result in the electronic ticket platform center as ticket issuing information by the electronic ticket distribution authentication apparatus, , see column 2, lines 46-54, column 16, lines 14-51; forming an electronic ticket information master based on the event information registered by the event organizer apparatus, relating the ticket issuing information registered by the electronic ticket distribution authentication apparatus to the electronic ticket information master, and performing ticket issuing processing for writing the electronic ticket information concerning a plurality of tickets for attending the event into the information storage chip based on the ticket issuing information by the electronic ticket platform center, see column 2, lines 46-54 , column 16, lines 14-51 and column 8.ines 11-28.

As per Claim 30.
Laval et al ('209) further discloses event organizer apparatus selects the electronic ticket distribution authentication apparatus for handling the electronic ticket information concerning the event, see column 8, lines 3-24.

As per Claim 31.
Laval et al ('209) further discloses the information storage chip is distributed as a membership card according to a membership registration via the electronic ticket distribution authentication apparatus, see column 8, lines 3-24.

As per Claim 32, 39.
Laval et al ('209) further discloses a predetermined time period is provided between the distribution authentication processing performed by the electronic ticket distribution apparatus processing performed by the electronic ticket distribution authentication apparatus and the ticket issuing processing performed by the electronic ticket platform center, see column 7, lines 7-39 and column 11, lines 21-51.

As per Claim 33.
Laval et al ('209) further discloses the request to distribute the electronic ticket information from the user is sent and the ticket issuing processing is performed by the electronic ticket platform center via a network, see column 15, lines 52-63.

As per Claim 34.
Laval et al ('209) further discloses an electronic ticket information distribution store terminal is provided, and the request to distribute the electronic ticket information from the user is sent and the ticket issuing processing is performed by the electronic ticket platform center via the electronic ticket information distribution store terminal, see column 15, lines 39-51.

As per Claim 35.
Laval et al ('209) further discloses authentication processing by the electronic ticket platform center is required when the electronic ticket is written to the information storage chip, see column 15, lines 39-63.

As per Claim 36.
Laval et al ('209) discloses: an electronic ticket assignment apparatus for controlling a reading/writing operation of electronic ticket information from and into an information storage chip in which a plurality of items of the electronic ticket information are stored, the electronic ticket information being used for authenticating a right to attend an event in correspondence with event information unique to each event, see column 7, line 55 - column 8, line 2, wherein the information storage chip of an assignor sends an assignment request to the electronic ticket assignment by specifying ID information of the information storage chip of an assignee and the electronic ticket information to be assigned, and the electronic ticket assignment apparatus performs an assignment operation by writing the electronic ticket information to be assigned into the information. storage chip of the assignee in response to an assignment request and by deleting the assigned ticket information from the information storage chip of the assignor, see column 6, lines 33-46 and column 8, lines 11-16 and column 8, lines 3-28.

As per Claim 37.
Laval et al ('209) further discloses the electronic ticket assignment apparatus includes an electronic ticket platform center which authenticates a writing/deleting operation of the electronic ticket information, and a reader/writer for reading and writing the electronic ticket information from and into the information storage chip, see column 16, lines 14-48 and column 8, lines 3-28; and
wherein the assignment request and the assignment operation are performed via a network, see column 16, lines 14-48.

As per Claim 38.
Laval et al ('209) further discloses the electronic ticket assignment apparatus comprises an information storage chip reader/writer having a right to authenticate a writing/deleting operation of the electronic ticket information, see column 8, lines 3-28.
22.

As per Claim 40.
Laval et al ('209) further discloses a computer program, see column 12, lines 18- 22

As per Claims 61, 62, 62.
Laval et al ('209) further discloses the plurality of electronic tickets correspond to a plurality of consecutive seats for the same event, see column 2, lines 45-54.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas A. Dixon whose telephone number is (571) 272-6803. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 6:30 - 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Hayes can be reached on (571) 272-6708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Thomas A. Dixon
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3628

June 07